

available for express priority delivery. Both the media content list and client address list will preserve sort order when billed and tracked.

Step 4: Submission The Packager application will have a "send" key that will queue the package for immediate submission. The producer's "Submitting Agent" will then take over. For all queued packages, it calls into the server via ISDN and FTP's all files for the package to the server, and then e-mails the envelope for that package to the server (not to the clients).

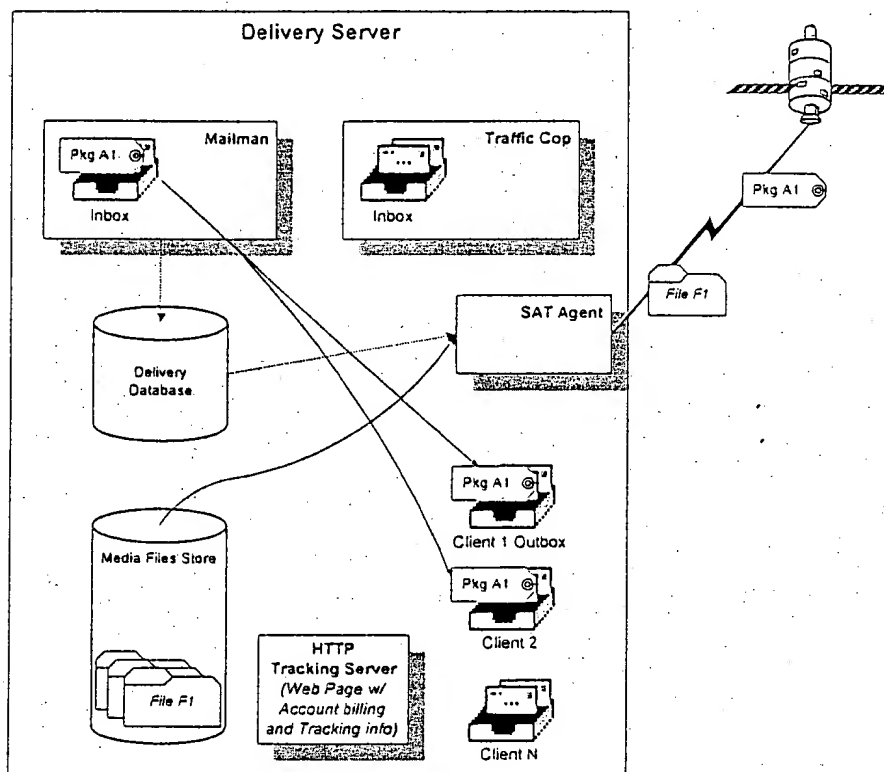


Figure 4 - Data Flow: Server Forwarding

Step 5: Forwarding The server has an agent called the "mailman" that scans its inbox for envelope submissions. On receiving an envelope, the mailman validates that all the files referenced therein have been FTP'd to it. If so, the mailman will e-mail the envelope (not the files) to all of the clients addressed in that envelope. It also submits the envelope to the Satellite Agent which queues the package (envelope and its referenced content) for repeated broadcasting over the satellite.

Step 6: Confirming Packages The server also has a "Traffic Cop" that monitors its inbox for confirmations to packages sent by clients. A confirmation from a client indicates it has completely received a package (envelope and all media files referenced therein), much like "registered mail". On receiving a confirmation, the server updates its database with the confirmed delivery. A duplication house can record and ground ship packages to clients that have not confirmed their delivery by a required time, and to clients that do not support electronic delivery.